

Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-14

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FM AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1423

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS OSAKA KOBE 153

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, CVIS, AFSP

SUBJECT: FY '75 CONSULAR WORKLOAD ESTIMATE

REF: (A) STATE 023990, FEBRUARY 5, 1974

(B) OSAKA-KOBE'S A-1, JANUARY 10, 1974

(C) OSAKA-KOBE'S A-6, FEBRUARY 8, 1974

(D) OSAKA-KOBE'S A-43, JULY 5, 1973

(E) OSAKA-KOBE'S A-28, JUNE 22, 1973

SUMMARY. POST ESTIMATES 1,928 LOCAL WORK HOUR DEFICIT IN
CONSULAR SECTION IN FY'75 ON ASSUMPTION:

(A) PRESENT LOCAL STAFF OF NINE IS NOT AUGMENTED:

(B) PRESENT NIV PROCEDURES, INCLUDING GUAM GROUP

VISA (GGV), REMAIN IN EFFECT:

(C) GROWTH IN NIV DEMAND CONTINUES AT A MODEST 10.5 PERCENT.

(D) PRESENT TRENDS IN IV, PPT AND SCS SERVICES CONTINUE.

STATE 023990 SAYS THAT HAWAII GROUP VISA (HGV) EXPERIMENT
PROPOSED IN A-1 NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION BY DEPARTMENT.

IF HGV AUTHORIZED BY EARLY FY'75, EVEN ON LIMITED SCALE,
ANTICIPATED WORKLOAD CAN BE MANAGED WITHOUT RECOURSE TO
OVERTIME OR RECRUITMENT ADDITIONAL LOCAL STAFF.

1. CONSULATE GENERAL ESTIMATED LOCAL MAN-HOUR REQUIREMENT
FOR FY'75 OF 20,840 HOURS IN FY'75 CONSULAR PACKAGE (A43)
OF WHICH 15,000 LOCAL MAN-HOURS WERE ALLOTTED TO NIV
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FUNCTION. POST HAS REVISED THIS ESTIMATE IN LIGHT OF

(A) FARE INCREASES AND GOJ ACTIONS TO THROTTLE GROWTH OF OVERSEAS TRAVEL, AND

(B) POST'S EXPERIENCE WITH GGV. AS REPORTED IN - A-6, POST NOW EXPECTS INCREASE IN NIV WORKLOAD IN FY'74 TO BE ABOUT 12 PERCENT, INSTEAD OF 28 PERCENT PREDICTED TEN MONTHS AGO IN A-43. BREATHING AFFORDED BY INTRODUCTION OF GGV WILL END IN JULY 1974. HOWEVER, GOJ ESTIMATES INDICATE GROWTH IN NIV WORKLOAD IN FY'75 WILL BE ONLY ABOUT 10.5 PERCENT AS COMPARED TO THE 14 PERCENT PREDICTED IN A-43. IN CONSEQUENCE, POST HAS REDUCED ESTIMATE OF FY'75 LOCAL WORKLOAD TO 17,892 HOURS, OF WHICH 11,410 ARE ALLOTTED TO NIV FUNCTION. AVAILABLE LOCAL MAN-HOURS TOTAL 15,964, LEAVING DEFICIT OF 1928 HOURS, OR ABOUT ONE MAN-YEAR.

2. AS POST NOTED IN A-6, DIVERSION OF CONSULAR SECTION MANPOWER FROM OTHER FUNCTIONS INTO NIV EFFORT ALREADY CONSIDERABLE. TO EXTENT MANPOWER SQUEEZE CAN BE RELIEVED, POST HOPES TO IMPROVE SERVICES IN SCS AREA, PARTICULARLY TO LARGE RESIDENT COMMUNITY OF ELDERLY JAPANESE-AMERICANS.

3. OSAKA KOBE HAS REQUESTED AUTHORITY TO HIRE ADDITIONAL LOCAL EMPLOYEE (FSL-8) IN FY'75 (A-28). IF THAT SOLUTION FOR WORK HOUR DEFICIT IS ADOPTED, ESSENTIAL THAT NEW STAFFER BE ON BOARD BEFORE AUTUMN, 1974: OCTOBER AND DECEMBER ARE OUR BUSINESS NIV MONTHS. ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE IS EXTENSIVE OVERTIME PROGRAMMING SOME 1062 LOCAL WORK HOURS AT ESTIMATED COST OF DOL5500, COUPLED WITH RAID ON ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION (848 LOCAL MAN HOURS). BY FOR THE BEST SOLUTION, IN POST'S VIEW, IS HGV PROPOSAL, WITH START-UP NO LATER THAN JULY 1.

4. EVEN IF (INITIALLY) ONLY ECORTED TOURS ORGANIZED BY 'BIG SIX' WHOLESALERS FALL WITHIN SCOPE OF HGV EXPERIMENT, POST WOULD REALIZE NET SAVINGS OF 2200 LOCAL WORK HOURS IN FIRST FULL YEAR OF OPERATION BASED ON ONLY 10 PERCENT INCREASE IN 1974 TRAVELERS OVER 1973. IF ALL HAWAII-BOUND GROUP COVERED, MINIMUM NET SAVING ABOUT 2750 LOCAL WORK HOURS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ARE NEEDED
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FOR ADEQUATE PLANNING.HOLLOWAY

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